

## POEM-2 | The Laburnum Top

## QUIZ-01

1. What season is depicted in the poem 'The Laburnum Top'?

- A. Spring  
B. Winter  
C. Autumn  
D. Summer (C)

**Explanation:** The mention of 'yellow September sunlight' and 'yellowing leaves' indicates the autumn season.

2. What triggers the activity in the laburnum tree?

- A. A gust of wind  
B. A squirrel jumping  
C. The arrival of the goldfinch  
D. Falling of seeds (C)

**Explanation:** The tree becomes lively when the goldfinch arrives and enters the thickness of the branches.

3. What does the goldfinch feed in the nest?

- A. Worms  
B. Her chicks  
C. Seeds  
D. Insects (B)

**Explanation:** The poem implies that the goldfinch stokes 'the engine of her family,' referring to feeding her chicks.

4. What poetic device is used in 'sleek as a lizard'?

- A. Personification  
B. Alliteration  
C. Simile  
D. Metaphor (C)

**Explanation:** The bird's movement is directly compared to a lizard using 'as,' which is a simile.

5. What does the goldfinch's abrupt entrance into the tree resemble?

- A. A ghost's flight  
B. A soldier's march  
C. A machine starting  
D. A leaf falling (C)

**Explanation:** Her entrance triggers a flurry of activity described as a machine starting up.

6. How is the laburnum tree described at the beginning of the poem?

- A. Lush and full of life  
B. Covered with snow  
C. Silent and still  
D. Vibrant and chirping (C)

**Explanation:** The poem opens by describing the laburnum top as 'silent, quite still.'

7. What does the phrase 'barred face identity mask' refer to?

- A. The shadow of branches on the bird  
B. The stripes on the bird's face  
C. A veil on the tree  
D. A man-made mask (B)

**Explanation:** The phrase describes the distinctive markings on the goldfinch's face.

8. What happens to the tree after the goldfinch flies away?

- A. It catches fire  
B. It becomes noisy  
C. It starts shaking  
D. It subsides into silence (D)

**Explanation:** The tree returns to its original quiet state after the bird leaves.

9. What is the dominant colour imagery in the poem?

- A. Red  
B. Yellow  
C. Blue  
D. Green (B)

**Explanation:** Words like 'yellow September sunlight' and 'yellowing leaves' suggest yellow is the dominant colour.

10. What does the goldfinch symbolize in the poem?

- A. A predator  
B. A divine spirit  
C. A spark of life and energy  
D. A thief of seeds (C)

**Explanation:** The goldfinch brings vitality and movement to the otherwise lifeless tree, symbolizing life and energy.